

Claims

1. (currently amended) ~~A methodology for standardizing a web-based clearing system for a trading platform, defined as a Node and linked to a local commercial banks, further comprising:~~

~~Means of incorporating payments system into the Node for financial transactions;
means of allowing the Node to clear financial transaction;
means of allowing the Node to manage cash for settlement;
means of allowing the Node to make payments against physical delivery.~~

A cash management data processing system for multi-location standardized trading Nodes, allowing financial clearing within each Node, and between any two Nodes, linked to banking payment systems, comprising:

- a) Fiduciary and electronic Escrow accounts at each Node;
- b) electronic fund movement between Fiduciary and Escrow accounts bi-directionally at each Node;
- c) an electronic intelligent hub for routing bid and offer among different Nodes
- d) an electronic clearing engine for Fiduciary accounts between two Nodes;
- e) a price matching engine for a product in selected base currency;
- f) daily electronic cash settlement ;
- g) an electronic physical settlement;
- h) daily reporting of account statement.

2. (currently amended) System of claim 1, wherein ~~said payments system includes maintenance of Fiduciary account, further blocking funds allocated for customer pending transaction from Fiduciary account. the required funds for customer's pending match will be blocked from said Fiduciary account until a match is made or the order is canceled.~~

3. (currently amended) System of claim 2, claim 1 wherein ~~the Fiduciary account is maintained as customer-specific segregated account in fixed currency as well as variable currency and translating variable currency to fixed currency as needed in matching~~

~~process for clearing.~~ said Fiduciary account holds local currency and at least one foreign currency as base currency in a Node.

4. (currently amended) System of ~~claim 3, wherein blocked fund in said segregated Fiduciary account is moved to an Escrow account in fixed currency for order matching, further unblocking fund if the order is not matched as requested or canceled.~~ claim 2, wherein said blocked funds from Fiduciary account are moved to Escrow account in base currency after a match is made.

5. (currently amended) System of claim 4, wherein a daily price adjustment to the blocked funds in said Escrow account is made after daily settlement reflecting marked-to-market cash value of transaction.

6. (currently amended) System of claim 5, wherein said adjustment will result in movement of funds between said Escrow and Fiduciary accounts, marked-to-market pricing triggers movement of funds between Fiduciary and Escrow account to make the necessary adjustment.

7. (currently amended) System of ~~claim 4~~ claim 6, wherein the net amount retained in Escrow account resulting from said movement of funds between Fiduciary and Escrow account constitute daily cash settlement is made by adjusting customer said Fiduciary account in a Node.

8. (currently amended) System of claim 1 wherein, [[a]]designated bonded warehouses are utilized for said physical delivery settlement.

9. (currently amended) System of claim 8, wherein, physical delivery settlement is made by , exchanging electronic said bonded warehouse digital receipt of goods with electronic cash fund transfer from through Node's Fiduciary account

10. (canceled) ~~A method that allows two parties in any two Nodes with fixed currency to conduct clearing of financial transaction by moving funds. The system further comprising a hub whereby matches are routed in fixed currency at all times, further allowing inter-Nodal matching, based on respective local time order stamped.~~

11. (currently amended)) System of ~~claim 10~~ claim 1, wherein [[the]]said procedure for financial clearing between two Nodes transfers is accomplished by transferring fund

from Fiduciary account of one Node to Fiduciary account of another Node in fixed currency base currency for purpose of clearing a pending match .

12. (currently amended) System of claim 11, wherein said ~~electronically~~ transferred fund is recorded to the customer segregated accounts a fixed currency as order is matched in another Node is moved to Escrow account of the Node that the match is made.

13. (currently amended) System of ~~claim 11~~ claim 12, wherein said fund movement internal transfer from Fiduciary to Escrow account in fixed currency if additional fund is to be deposited in the Fiduciary account of one Node from another Node said transferred fund to Escrow account constitutes the additional fund required to complete settlement process in the Node that match was made.

14. (canceled) System of claim 10 further comprising a means of each settlement of trade by moving funds from one Node's Fiduciary account to another Node in fixed currency.

15.(currently amended)System of ~~claim 14~~, claim 1 wherein the time period for daily settlement time period extends reflects the time governed by payments system, from the time T representing day-1 execution of the trade to T+1 representing day-2 settlement date plus time zone difference which includes International Date Line, depending on Geographical location of Nodes with respect to each other.

16. (currently amended) A ~~procedure wherein the National Automatic Clearing House Association format and Rules are utilized as payment system format wherever the national clearinghouses communicate with Federal Reserve Automatic Clearing House through local bank.~~ System of claim 1 wherein said banking payment system includes the Automatic Clearing House format and Rules utilization whenever Fiduciary account in a Node communicates with Federal Reserve Automatic Clearing House directly, or via the National Clearinghouses in North America.

17. (currently amended) A procedure system of claim 1 wherein SWIFT protocols MT 103 and MT 940 are utilized as general for payments system format outside North America to communicate with Fiduciary accounts of Nodes using any executing electronic fund transfer between any two Nodes in different locations for financial clearing and settlement..

18. (currently amended) A System of ~~claim 14~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~real-time interbank~~ currency exchange rates at noon time, Eastern Standard Time, are captured for daily currency translation of funds ~~conversion to the corresponding local currency is computed~~ ~~and credited to or~~ for the purpose of moving funds between ~~debited from~~ respective Fiduciary account and Escrow account at the end of each trading day for settlement where applicable. ~~adjustment~~

19..(new) System of claim 2 wherein blocked fund is a predetermined and periodically updated percentage amount of total monetary value of transaction for the duration of the agreement.

20. (new) System of claim 4, wherein the required blocked fund in said Escrow account is maintained in base currency, marked –to-market and adjusted daily for the duration of agreement.

21.(new) System of claim 6, wherein said price adjustment to blocked fund is either addition of funds from Fiduciary to Escrow account or returning excess funds from Escrow to Fiduciary account all in base currency within a Node.

22. (new) System of claim 13, wherein said daily adjustment to Escrow account in a different Node, where a match has been made, includes daily cash settlement.

23. (new) System of claim 13, wherein transferred funds is reversed to move funds from Escrow account in the Node where the match was made to its Fiduciary account allowing excess fund be returned to Fiduciary account in the Node where order was initiated to complete the settlement process.

24. (new) System of claim 1, wherein said daily account statement for customer includes cash daily settlement of open positions in base currency and local currency

Claims (originally submitted May 19, 2008)

1. (currently amended) A methodology for standardizing a web based clearing system for a trading platform, defined as a Node and linked to a local commercial banks, further comprising:
Means of incorporating payments system into the Node for financial transactions;
means of allowing the Node to clear financial transaction;
means of allowing the Node to manage cash for settlement;
means of allowing the Node to make payments against physical delivery.
2. (currently amended) System of claim 1, wherein said payments system includes maintenance of Fiduciary account; further blocking funds allocated for customer pending transaction from Fiduciary account.
3. (currently amended) System of claim 2, wherein the Fiduciary account is maintained as customer specific segregated account in fixed currency as well as variable currency and translating variable currency to fixed currency as needed in matching process for clearing.
4. (currently amended) System of claim 3, wherein blocked fund in said segregated Fiduciary account is moved to an Escrow account in fixed currency for order matching, further un-blocking fund if the order is not matched as requested or canceled.
5. (currently amended) System of claim 4, wherein a daily price adjustment to the funds in said Escrow account is made after daily settlement .

6. (currently amended) System of claim 5, wherein said daily adjustment will result in movement of funds between said Escrow and Fiduciary accounts.
7. (currently amended) System of claim 1, wherein the daily cash settlement is made by adjusting customer said Fiduciary account in a Node.
8. (currently amended) System of claim 1 wherein, a designated bonded warehouses are utilized for said physical delivery settlement.
9. (currently amended) System of claim 8, wherein, physical delivery settlement is made by, exchanging electronic bonded warehouse receipt of goods with electronic cash transfer through Node's Fiduciary account.
10. (currently amended) A method that allows two parties in any two Nodes with fixed currency to conduct clearing of financial transaction by moving funds. The system further comprising a hub whereby matches are routed in fixed currency at all times, further allowing inter Nodal matching, based on respective local time order stamped.
11. (currently amended) System of claim 10, wherein the said procedure for clearing between two nodes transfers funds from Fiduciary account of one Node to another Node in fixed currency for purpose of clearing a pending match..
12. (currently amended) System of claim 11, wherein said electronically transferred fund is recorded to the customer segregated accounts in a fixed currency as order is matched in another Node.
13. (currently amended) System of claim 11; wherein said fund movement includes internal transfer from Fiduciary to Escrow account in fixed currency if additional fund is to be deposited in the Fiduciary account of one Node from another Node.

14. (currently amended) System of claim 10 further comprising a means of cash settlement of trade by moving funds from one Node's Fiduciary account to another Node in fixed currency.

15. (currently amended) System of claim 14, wherein the daily settlement time period reflects the time governed by payments system, from the time T representing day 1 to T+1 representing day 2 plus time zone difference depending on Geographical location of Nodes with respect to each other.

16. (currently amended) A procedure wherein the National Automatic Clearing House Association format and Rules are utilized as payment system format wherever the national clearinghouses communicate with Federal Reserve Automatic Clearing House through local-bank.

17. (currently amended) A procedure wherein SWIFT protocols MT 103 and MT 940 are utilized as an general payments system format to communicate with Nodes using any electronic fund transfer for financial clearing and settlement..

18. (currently amended) A procedure wherein the real time currency translation from fixed-local currency is computed and credited to (or debited from) respective Fiduciary account at the end of each trading day for settlement adjustment.